Abstract

A method for operating a metering valve (31) and a device for performing the method are proposed, providing for diagnosis of the metering valve (31) which defines a flow rate of a reagent to be introduced into an exhaust gas area (13) of an internal combustion engine (10). The diagnosis is performed on the basis of an analysis of a measure for the flow rate during a diagnosis time (T3). According to a first embodiment, after a diagnosis start signal (24, 35, 40, 42) has occurred with the metering valve (31) closed, the reagent is brought to a predefined diagnosis starting pressure (P1) via a pump (27); the metering valve (31) is then set at a predefined flow rate and the pressure difference (P3) occurring during the diagnosis time (T3) is analyzed. According to another embodiment, the amount of reagent delivered by the metering valve (31) during the diagnosis time (T3) into a graduated beaker is analyzed.

(Figure 1)